MSS Prenatal Eligibility Risk Criteria Clarification Table

MSS Targeted Risk Factor Criteria	Clarification
Some additional background information for all risk factors	1. Client risk criteria information can be obtained from:
	 Client self report- please use probing questions to confirm Medical care provider records WIC agency reports Chemical Dependency Treatment agencies Mental Health providers Other social services agencies
	2. Risk determination- some MSS targeted risks can be determined easily by any MSS team member (CHW or Clinician):
	 Client is diagnosed with gestational diabetes Previous preterm birth Late entry to prenatal care
	While other risk factors require a clinician (CHN, BHS, RD) to determine the specific risk criteria (A,B,C) that applies are a noted with an * asterisks :
	 Pre-pregnancy BMI Mental health Developmental Disability Substance Abuse or Addiction. 3. Release of Information- Please talk with your supervisor and/or legal council to determine when a release of information is needed.
	4. Increased collaboration and marketing of MSS will be needed so women are referred back into services if their situation changes:
	 Prenatal medical care providers WIC Social workers within the hospitals, emergency rooms Drug treatment Mental health Child protective services Economic Services – TANF
	5. Clients can self refer to an MSS agency initially or develop a targeted risk factor(s) later on in pregnancy.

Some additional background information for all risk factors Cont

- **6. Non MSS targeted risk factors-** Clients will have risks factors other than, or in addition too, the MSS targeted risk factors. MSS risk factors are the first priority but other risks that could impact the pregnancy should be noted.
- **7. Depression Screening-** All clients who answer positive to Mental health screening questions or have symptoms of depression should be screened for depression using a standardized depression screening tool. Some agencies are already screening all clients for depression during the pregnancy cycle and others may want to consider this option.

Race

- American Indian, Alaskan Native, non-Spanish speaking indigenous women from the Americas i.e. Mam in Guatemala and Mixteco from Oaxaca, Mexico
- Black or African American

- 1. Racial determination: To determine client race, have woman fill out demographics on intake form or ask the woman "What do you consider your race or ethnic background to be"? Have the woman choose. The pregnant woman is the focus of this risk factor, not the baby or father of the baby.
- 2. Black or African American: A person having origins in any of the Black racial groups of Africa. It includes people who indicate their race as "Black, African Am., or Negro," or provide written entries such as African American, Afro American, Kenyan, Nigerian, or Haitian. (US census definition)
- 3. Non-Spanish speaking indigenous women from the Americas(original peoples): This risk factor does not include Spanish speaking Hispanic women for example, but it does include specific population of indigenous tribes from the Americas who speak only indigenous languages i.e. Mam in Guatemala and Mixteco from Oaxaca, Mexico.
- 4. The decision to include these racial groups in the C level of service was based on:
 - 2009 Washington State Legislature directive to increase services to these populations in an effort to reduce LBW/premature birth and other poor birth outcomes.(HB 1244)
 - Data analysis of poor pregnancy outcomes for these groups in Washington State;
 - Even though African American/black women are at the highest risk for LBW, preterm birth and other poor birth outcomes most of the women in this population do not screen in by standard risk criteria (Washington data and literature both support this)
 - Maternal Child Health research literature on health disparity

	Policy decisions by other states' to target high risk racial population groups in an effort to reduce health disparities.
 Prenatal Care Greater than (≥)14 and less than (<) 24 weeks gestation and no prenatal care started Greater than or equal to (≥) 24 weeks gestation before, or no, prenatal care started. 	 1. Greater than (≥) 14 and less than (<) 24 weeks' gestation and no prenatal care started: Woman is 3 ½ months pregnancy or less than 6 months pregnant and has not started prenatal medical care. She may need help obtaining medical coupon, transportation, child care, finding a medical care provider, etc. During these times of prenatal care access issues in Washington State, there may be several clients who meet this risk criteria. Prioritize your case load, with help from team members, if needed, so the woman at most risk for poor birth outcomes is seen as soon as possible. For clients with
	 less risk the goal is to have the client seen with in the month or sooner. 2. Greater than or equal to (≥) 24 weeks gestation before, or no, prenatal care started: Woman is at 6 months of pregnancy or further along and prenatal care was started on or after the 6 month of pregnancy Woman is at 6 months of pregnancy or further along and no prenatal care has started. This woman needs help in accessing care as soon as possible. In addition to possible access issues, these clients may not trust health care provider or have underlying issues such as substance abuse, mental illness, developmental disability.
Food Insecurity: Runs out of food before the end of the month or cuts down on the amount eaten to feed others.	 Food Insecurity: Anyone who answers positive to the food insecurity question will be marked as food insecure. Most people who are food insecure may not disclose this information because there is a level of embarrassment associated with this issue. Regardless if a client is on WIC or accessing other services (food stamps, free meals etc) they can still be food insecure. Some reasons for continued food insecurity include homelessness, poor food storage, large family and a lack of knowledge regarding budgeting, shopping or cooking.

Pre-pregnancy BMI: IOM= Institute of Medicine

- Pre-pregnancy BMI less than (<) **18.5** and **weight gain within IOM** guidelines.
- Pre-pregnancy BMI less than (<) 18.5 and weight gain outside of IOM guidelines.
- Pre-pregnancy BMI 25.0 to 29.9
- Pre-pregnancy BMI greater than or equal to (≥) 30 and weight gain within IOM guidelines.
- Pre-pregnancy BMI greater than or equal to (≥) 30 and weight gain outside of the Institute of Medicine guidelines.

Pre-Pregnancy BMI and Pregnancy Weight Gain:

Please note weight is one way to screen for risk. Clients are sensitive about weight in most circumstances so being cautious of the words you use and providing positive messages will be important. More information on this will be provided in a guide later but please use you dietitian who is the expert in this area if you have questions.

- **1. Pre-pregnancy weight, current weight and height** can all be obtained from the following:
 - a. Medical record if available
 - b. WIC certification report etc if available
 - c. Agency measurement and determination
 - Have the women remove her shoes and heavy outer clothing before weighing or measuring.
 - Zero the scale out prior to weighing
 - Have the woman step onto the center of the scale
 - d. Client self report:
 - Some populations are not use to having their height and/or weight checked so they will not be able to self report.
 - If a client is not able to self report and it is early in the pregnancy (1st trimester) you can weigh the client and then ask probing questions like "How have your clothes been fitting?"
 - When weight is self reported note that some women tend to under report their pre-pregnancy weight. Making a statement like "based on what you have shared, it looks like you have gained ~ x pounds so far for this pregnancy" "Does that sound about right"? If the weight gain does not sound right the client will usually tell you.
- 2. **Calculating Pre-pregnancy BMI-** BMI chart provided by First Steps and the following link provides CDC Online Calculator
 - http://www.cdc.gov/healthyweight/assessing/bmi/adult_bmi/english_bmi_calculator/bmi_calculator.html
- 3. **Determine if the weight gain is within the guidelines**-Clinicians will need to determine if the pregnancy weight gain is within the guidelines (See risk factor matrix). Please note you are only determining if the client is within the guidelines not what that determination means for that client.

Medical:

Inter-pregnancy interval: Current pregnancy conception less than (<)9 months from the end of last pregnancy

Diabetes:

- History gestational diabetes with last pregnancy
- Pre-existing Diabetes- type 1 or 2
- Curent gestational diabètes

Multiples: Currently pregnant with multiples (2 or more babies)

Hypertension/Gestational Hypertension:

- Gestational hypertension in prior pregnancies.
- Chronic Hypertension: Hypertension diagnosed prior to pregnancy or before 20 weeks gestation (5 months of pregnancy).
- Current pregnancy induced hypertension (gestational hypertension) starting greater than 20 weeks gestation (5 months of pregnancy)

Low Birth Weight (LBW) or Preterm birth/labor, Fetal Death:

- Prior LBW infant (less than (<) 5lb 8 oz) **and/or** premature Infant (less than (<)37 weeks)and or fetal death
- Current preterm labor

Medical Risk Factors- this can be self report but you must probe to ensure it was diagnosed by health care provider and not just client diagnosed.

Inter-pregnancy interval- last pregnancy includes fetal loss and termination **Multiples:**

- Extremely high risk for preterm/ LBW infants
- Fetal birth defects
- Placenta Previa, Abruptio Placenta
- Preeclampsia gestational hypertension
- Greater occurrence in African American women
- Greater occurrence in women over 35, with or with out assisted reproductive technology
- Postpartum depression

Hypertension: Hypertension can be determined through self report, review of current medications, medical records, and BP screening. Blood Pressure Screening is one way to assess for hypertension. Blood pressure screening by MSS providers will require an agency protocol for training staff and process for sharing BP Screening information with medical care providers. Hypertension diagnosis can not be determined through BP screening alone.

Gestational Hypertension: This typically develops later in the third trimester of pregnancy Gestational hypertension can develop into preeclampsia This condition occurs most often in young women with a first pregnancy. It is more common in twin pregnancies, in women over the age of 35, in women with chronic hypertension, preexisting diabetes, African-American women, and in women who had hypertension in a previous pregnancy.

LBW/Preterm birth/labor/ fetal death: Fetal death is defined at 20 weeks or more gestation (sometimes called still birth). If a woman has had more than one preterm birth, fetal death, she is at further increased risk of poor birth outcomes.

If a woman is diagnosed at any time during the pregnancy with preterm labor she is at high risk and needs support to prevent and recognize labor. Also if a woman is placed on bed rest for a condition that can result in preterm delivery they fall under this risk category.

Maternal Age:

- 16 years old at conception
- Up through age 15 at conception
- 35 years of age or older at conception and this is not her first pregnancy and she did not use assisted reproductive technology (ART) for this pregnancy
- 35 years of age or older at conception and one of the following:
 - (1) First pregnancy
 - (2) Current pregnancy via assisted reproductive technology (ART)

Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART) - Assisted reproductive technology (ART) is a general term referring to methods used to achieve pregnancy by artificial or partially artificial means. It is reproductive technology used primarily in infertility treatments.

Tobacco Use

- Quit before pregnancy or upon diagnosis of pregnancy.
- Smokes or uses tobacco during pregnancy.

Tobacco use:

- Any maternal tobacco use including type and amount.
- This does not include second hand smoke.
- Relapse: If woman quit, but returns to smoking tobacco she can be moved into the B category. Women who continue to smoke tobacco through out pregnancy may also have one of the other risk factors such as substance abuse or mental illness.

Alcohol and Substance Abuse/Addiction

- Stopped use of alcohol (see clarification table), illicit substances, or nonprescriptive use of prescriptive drugs following pregnancy diagnosis and has not used for more than or equal to (≥) 90 days
- Actively engaged in alcohol/drug treatment program and has not used for greater than or equal to (≥) 90 days.
- Stopped use of alcohol (see clarification notes), illicit substances, or nonprescriptive use of prescriptive drugs following pregnancy diagnosis and has not used for less than (<90)
- **Any use** of alcohol, illicit substances, or non-prescriptive use of prescriptive drugs once the client knows she is pregnant.

- **B risk criteria-** This risk criteria **does not apply to** the woman who drank an occasional alcoholic beverage before pregnancy but stopped all alcohol use either before planning pregnancy or at the time of pregnancy diagnosis.
 - A client who has stopped using or is actively involved/engaged in treatment and shows no signs of use may be at risk for relapse and need support.
 - The woman who has relapsed during her pregnancy can be moved to the C level and stay there for the duration of her pregnancy.
 - Actively involved/engaged- participating in CD treatment and/or attending regular AA/NA meetings This includes methadone treatment.
- **C** risk criteria- This risk level **does include** any level of alcohol (even "social" drinking) or drug use once the woman knows she is pregnant including those who relapse during pregnancy.
- If a woman enters jail having used alcohol, illicit substances, or nonprescriptive use of prescriptive drugs her jail time does not count as part of that abstinent time period.

Mental Health

- No history of mental health diagnosis, but screens positive for "In the last month, have you felt down, depressed or hopeless?", or showing signs of depression, and standardized depression screen indicates mild risk (Edinburgh less than 10 or a comparable score on another standardized depression screening tool).
- History of mental health treatment **and/or** postpartum depression and Edinburgh score currently less than 10 (or a comparable score on another standardized depression screening tool) **or**
- Current mental health diagnosis and is actively participating in a mental health treatment.
- Mental health symptoms of depression are evidenced by Edinburgh depression score greater then 10 (or a comparable score on another standardized tool that indicates possible depression). **Or**
- Client has a mental health diagnosis and active symptoms which are interfering with general functioning.

Standardized depression screening- Any standardized tool. Some tools can be self administered by literate clients and others need to be done by a clinician. Some examples of a standardized tool include:

- Edinburgh
- CES-D
- BECK's Depression Inventory
- Postpartum Depression Screening Scale
- PHQ 9
- GAD 7 needs to be done in combination with depression screening.

Some symptoms of depression can be similar to some of the changes that naturally occur during pregnancy and this is why a clinical determination is needed. Symptoms of depression may include:

- Flat affect
- Complaining of tiredness
- Over or under eating
- Can't sleep or sleep too much
- Can't control negative thoughts, no matter how much they try
- Much more irritable and short-tempered than usual

Actively engaged in treatment: Client is using prescriptions as prescribed, and or involved with mental health treatment.

Severe Developmental Disability

- Severe developmental disability which could impact the woman's ability
 to take care of herself during the pregnancy or a child, but adequate
 support system, and follows through with health care appts/advice and
 self care.
- Severe developmental disability which impacts the woman's ability to take
 care for herself during the pregnancy or a child and **inadequate** support
 system or **does not demonstrate** evidence of follow through with health
 care appts/advice and self care.
- Please note there are only 500 women statewide who fit into this category in 2007. We are not talking about low literacy level, poor school performance or SSI but instead clients who are unable to care for themselves and have limited safety nets.
- **Defining Severe Developmental Disability-** This risk factor has been difficult to define and measure objectively. Providers will need to use their clinical assessment skills to determine the client developmental disability related to her ability to care for herself during pregnancy. Document finding in the chart.
- Adequate support- Safety Net (family, partner or support system) that will help the client keep appointments, support the client with ADLs during pregnancy and with the infant postpartum.
- **Demonstrated follow thru on medical care and self care** is following through with medical appointments and medical advice for specific condition (gestational hypertension, diabetes, preterm labor etc).
- Women with severe developmental disability may have other issues (mental illness interpersonal violence, substance abuse and medical issues) that are

	difficult to obtain or asses due to client's cognitive disability.
Intimate Partner Violence In the last year, the woman's intimate partner or father of baby (FOB) has committed or threatened physical/sexual violence against her.	Intimate Partner Violence- The risk is greatest if the person who inflicted the violence is the father of the baby or the current intimate partner